

Appl. No. : 09/779,691  
Filed : February 7, 2001

a plurality of printed wiring boards including at least a first printed wiring board and a second printed wiring board, wherein each of said first and second printed wiring boards includes a metal core substrate having a first major surface and a second major surface which are opposite and parallel to each other;

an electrically insulating layer at least partially covering each of the major surfaces;

a conductive printed wiring layer formed on the surface of said electrically insulating layer and including a plurality of wiring lines;

a solder resist layer partially covering the surface of said conductive printed wiring layer; and

wherein each metal substrate comprises a plurality of integral metal projections made of the same metal material in a single continuous piece as that of the metal core substrate, said projections being of a predetermined height on at least one of said first major surface or said second major surface so as to provide an air gap between the adjacent printed wiring boards in said multilayer structure,

wherein the metal core substrate of said first printed wiring board and the metal core substrate of said second printed wiring board are made of the same metal material with each other; and

wherein said solder resist layer comprises at least one local opening for exposing metal surface at a region corresponding to at least one of said metal projections.

#### **REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the above amendments and the following discussion.

Claim 11 has been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended. The amendments to Claim 1 are supported by, for example, the specification at page 7, lines 28-29, and page 8, lines 9-10 and Figures 1A-1E. Therefore, the claim amendments do not introduce any new matter. As a result of the amendments listed above, Claims 1-10 are pending in this application.

The specific changes to the amended claim are shown on a separate set of page attached hereto and entitled **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**, which